

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00705 301504Z

43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-01 L-02 /053 W

----- 095692

R 301038Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2343

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 0705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, LA

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON
MILITARY ASSISTANCE

1. IN THE COURSE OF OUR TALK THIS MORNING, FONMIN PHOUMI VONGVICHIT RAISED WITH ME THE QUESTION OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO FAR. HE SAID THAT THE PGNU SHOULD BE GIVEN INFORMATION REGARDING OUR PROGRAM SO THAT THE FUNDS BEING GRANTED COULD APPEAR IN THE NATIONAL BUDGET. THE AID SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE GOVERNMENT AND NOT TO FAR. FURTHERMORE, THE MYSTERY WHICH SURROUNDED U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE CONTRIBUTED TO AN ATMOSPHERE OF SUSPICION AND MISTRUST.

2. I EXPLAINED THAT NO FUNDS WERE GIVEN TO FAR AND REVIEWED THE NATURE OF THE PROGRAM. PHOUMI COMMENTED THAT SUPPLIES OF THE KIND I WAS DESCRIBING SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD THEN ALLOCATE THEM TO FAR.

3. I SAID THAT THIS WHOLE ISSUE WAS NOT REALLY ONE THAT COULD BE RESOLVED BY THE USG. THE QUESTION OF CONTROL OVER THE ARMY AND ARRANGEMENT FOR INTEGRATION OF THE VIENTIANE AND PL FORCES WERE STILL A MATTER OF CONTROVERSY BETWEEN THE TWO LAO PARTIES. IT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENTI 00705 301504Z

SEEMED TO MET THAT THE FIRST STEP SHOULD BE FOR THEM

TO AGREE ON WHAT POLICY TO ADOPT. A SITUATION IN WHICH EACH SIDE GAVE THE U.S. A DIFFERENT VERSION OF WHAT WAS DESIRED PUT ME IN AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION.

4. PHOUMI SAID THAT THE ISSUE WAS BASICALLY WHETHER FAR WAS THE ARMY OF THE PGNU OR THE ARMY OF THE RIGHTISTS. IN HIS VIEW, IT WAS THE NATIONAL ARMY AND SHOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO THE GOVERNMENT. IF IT WAS NOT THE NATIONAL ARMY THEN IT SHOULD BECOME SO AFTER WHICH THE PATRIOTIC FORCES WOULD BE MERGED WITH IT. THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO MOVE TOWARD NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND UNITY. I AGREED AND SAID THE U.S. HOPED FOR AN EARLY ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE AND CONCORD.

5. COMMENT: THE PATHET LAO SEEM TO BE GIVING THE ISSUE OF OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE A LOT OF ATTENTION. IN LAST FEW DAYS, SECSTATE OF FINANCE BOUSSABONG SOUVANNOVONG (PL) HAS RAISED IT WITH DCM AND ACTING AID DIRECTOR AND SECSTATE FOR DEFENSE KHAM OUANE BOUPHA (PL) HAS RAISED IT WITH GENERAL ROUND. I EXPECT TO MEET WITH VIENTIANE SIDE LEADERS IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO TO DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM.

6. PHOUMI WAS HIS USUAL BLAND SELF AND THERE WAS NO IMPLICATION IN OUR TALK THAT THE U.S. SHOULD NOT BE PROVIDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO LAOS. THE ISSUE WAS PURELY THE MODALITIES AND THE NEED FOR INFORMATION. IT IS OBVIOUS, HOWEVER, THAT THE PATHET LAO ARE ANXIOUS TO KNOW WHAT WE ARE PROVIDING AND TO PUT THEMSELVES IN A POSITION TO CONTROL OUR PROGRAM TO THE EXTENT THEY CAN. WE HAVE NOT HEARD THE END OF THIS ONE.
WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENTI00705
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750035-0137
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975015/aaaaadxk.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE
TAGS: MASS, LA, US, (PHOUMI VONGVICHIT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006